

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A computer-implemented method comprising:
2 requesting connection information from an application server to another node;
3 accessing a key phrase to decrypt the requested connection information, responsive to
4 the request for the connection information; and
5 obtaining the requested connection information from a secure storage file in a file
6 system.
- 1 2 The method of claim 1, wherein accessing the key phrase comprises:
2 accessing the key phrase from a file system of the application server.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein accessing the key phrase comprises:
2 accessing the key phrase from a central directory of a distributed system.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the central directory is a profile directory of the
2 distributed system.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein accessing the key phrase comprises:
2 prompting for input to the application server that provides the key phrase.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein
2 the another node includes a database and wherein requesting connection information
3 comprises:
4 requesting database connection information.

- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein database connection information includes at least one
2 of:
3 a password for the database; and
4 an address for the database.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the address for the database is a Uniform Resource
2 Locator (URL).
- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the key phrase includes a system identifier to identify
2 the system requesting the connection information.
- 1 10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 combining a system identifier of the application server with the key phrase to obtain
3 an effective encryption key.
- 1 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 decrypting the obtained connection information with the accessed key phrase.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein decrypting the obtained connection information
2 comprises:
3 decrypting the obtained connection information with a triple Data Encryption
4 Standard (DES) algorithm.
- 1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the obtained connection information includes a Java
2 string.

1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein requesting connection information in an application
2 server comprises:

3 automatically requesting a connection to a database.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein automatically requesting a connection to a database
2 comprises automatically requesting a connection to a database on initialization of the
3 application server.

1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein the application server is a Web application server.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the Web application server complies with the J2EE
2 standard.

1 18. A system comprising:
2 an application server to access a key phrase responsive to a request to connect with a
3 node;
4 a central directory to store a value string and to provide the value string to the
5 application server responsive to receiving the key phrase from the application server; and
6 the node to provide requested data to the application server.

1 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the node is a database system.

1 20. The system of claim 18, wherein the node is a relational database system.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the request to connect to the node is a request to
2 establish a connection with the relational database system.

1 22. The system of claim 18, wherein the application server is a Web application server.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the Web application server is implemented
2 according to the Java 2 Enterprise Edition Standard.

1 24. The system of claim 18, wherein the application server includes a system identifier to
2 identify the application server and the key phrase is to be combined with the system identifier
3 prior to sending the key phrase to the central directory.

1 25. The system of claim 18, wherein the stored value string includes at least one of:
2 a password to connect with the remote node; and
3 an address of the remote node.

1 26. The system of claim 18, wherein the application server includes a file system and the
2 key phrase is to be accessed from the application server's file system.

1 27. The system of claim 18, wherein the value string is to be stored in a data store of the
2 central directory.

1 28. The system of claim 27, wherein the data store of the central directory is encrypted.

1 29. The system of claim 28 wherein the data store is encrypted with a triple DES
2 algorithm.

1 30. The system of claim 28, wherein the data store of the central directory may be
2 transitioned from storing unencrypted data to storing encrypted data.

1 31. An application server comprising:
2 a network interface to connect to another node; and
3 a processor and logic executable thereon to
4 receive a request for connection information to another node,
5 access a key phrase to decrypt the requested connection information,
6 responsive to the request for connection information, and
7 obtain the requested connection information from a secure storage file in a file
8 system.

1 32. The application server of claim 31, wherein the processor and logic executable
2 thereon to access the key phrase comprises:
3 a processor and logic executable thereon to access the key phrase from a central
4 directory of a distributed system.

1 33. The application server of claim 31, wherein
2 the another node is a database; and
3 wherein the processor and logic executable thereon to request connection information
4 includes a processor and logic executable thereon to request database connection
5 information.

1 34. The application sever of claim 33, wherein the database connection information
2 includes at least one of:
3 a password for the database; and
4 an address for the database.

1 35. The application server of claim 34, wherein
2 the application server is a Web application server; and wherein

3 the address for the database is a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

1 36. A system comprising:

2 means for requesting connection information from an application server to another
3 node;

4 means for accessing a key phrase to decrypt the requested connection information,
5 responsive to the request for the connection information; and

6 means for obtaining the requested connection information from a secure storage file
7 in a file system.

1 37. The system of claim 36, wherein the means for accessing a key phrase comprises:

2 means for accessing the key phrase from a central directory of a distributed system.

1 38. The system of claim 36, wherein

2 the another node is a database system; and

3 wherein the means for requesting connection information includes means for
4 requesting database connection information.

1 39. An article of manufacture comprising:

2 an electronically accessible medium providing instructions that, when executed by an
3 apparatus, cause the apparatus to

4 request connection information from an application server to a database;

5 access a key phrase to decrypt the requested connection information, responsive to
6 the request for the connection information; and

7 obtain the requested connection information from a secure storage file in a file
8 system.

1 40. The article of manufacture of claim 39 wherein the instructions that, when executed
2 by an apparatus, cause the apparatus to access the key phrase include instructions that cause
3 the apparatus to
4 access the key phrase from a file system of the application server.

1 41. The article of manufacture of claim 39 wherein the instructions that, when executed
2 by an apparatus, cause the apparatus to access the key phrase include instructions that cause
3 the apparatus to
4 access the key phrase from a central directory of a distributed system.

1 42. The article of manufacture of claim 39 wherein the instructions that, when executed
2 by an apparatus, cause the apparatus to access the key phrase include instructions that cause
3 the apparatus to
4 prompt a user of the application server to provide the key phrase.

1 43. The article of manufacture of claim 39, the requested connection information includes
2 at least on of:
3 a password for the database; and
4 an address for the database.